

Additional Records to the Flora of Johnston Island

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PREVIOUS ACCOUNTS of Johnston Island plants have been from the field notes of Edwin H. Bryan Jr. published by Christophersen (1931) and additional records published by Fosberg (1949).

In January, 1954, the United States Air Force provided the author with transportation and quarters for a brief study of the atoll. The following list of new records to the flora is one result of this visit. The list is of two parts: (1) Plants growing without apparent cultivation and of which specimens were collected, (2) plants which were noted in dependents' homes and gardens. All determinations of plants not under cultivation were made by Dr. Harold St. John of the University of Hawaii. No specimens of plants under cultivation were taken from the sparse population maintained perhaps only by daily watering. A mint, an araceous plant and "mother-in-law's tongue" are not included for lack of more specific field determination.

PLANTS NOT UNDER CULTIVATION

Acacia farnesiana (L.) Willd.
Amaranthus dubius Mart.
Araucaria excelsa (Lamb.) R. Br.
Calophyllum inophyllum L.
Catharanthus roseus (L.) G. Don
Chenopodium murale L.
Coccoloba uvifera (L.) Jacq.

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Cordyline terminalis (L.) Kunth
Eragrostis amabilis (L.) Wight & Arn.
Erigeron bonariensis L.
Euphorbia hirta L.
Euphorbia glomerifera (Millsp.) L. C. Wheeler
Hibiscus tiliaceus L.
Ipomoea pes-caprae (L.) Sweet
Nicotiana glauca Graham
Pedilanthus tithymaloides (L.) Poit.
Sesuvium portulacastrum (L.) L.
Solanum lycopersicum L.
Sporobolus virginicus (L.) Kunth
Thevetia peruviana (Pers.) Schumann

PLANTS UNDER CULTIVATION

Allium fistulosum L.
Allium sp.
Alpinia sp.
Anthurium andraeanum Lind.
Bougainvillea sp.
Capsicum frutescens L.
Carica papaya L.
Citrullus vulgaris Schrad.
Citrus aurantifolia (Christmann) Swingle
Codiaeum variegatum (L.) Bl. var. *pictum* (Lodd.) Muel.-Arg.
Euphorbia pulcherrima Willd.
Gardenia sp.
Merremia tuberosa (L.) Rendle
Lobularia maritima (L.) Desv.
Mangifera indica L.
Pandanus sp.

Persea americana Mill.
Plumbago auriculata Lam.
Plumeria acuminata Ait.
Vanda sp.

Fosberg (personal communication) reports that he found *Vernonia cinerea*, *Brassaia acuminophylla*, and *Schinus terebinthifolius* in 1949. These were not seen at the time the present study was made.

It is not surprising to find such an increase in the number of species. Daily plane flights to and from other Pacific areas allow for many accidental as well as intentional introductions. A number of the records are based on but a few specimens in what may be considered a

transient population.

Records of the United States Weather Bureau from April, 1952, to February, 1954, indicate that the annual rainfall on Johnston Island is less than 20 inches. It might be of value to note in the future the species not surviving under such dry conditions.

REFERENCES

- CHRISTOPHERSEN, E. 1931. Vascular plants of Johnston and Wake Islands. *Bernice P. Bishop Mus., Occas. Papers* 9(13): 1-20.
- FOSBERG, F. R. 1949. Flora of Johnston Island, Central Pacific. *Pacific Sci.* 3(4): 338-339.

News Notes

Vegetation of the Society Islands and Makatea, by H. R. Papy.

Those interested in the geography and natural history of the islands of the Pacific will welcome the appearance of the first part of a detailed study of the vegetation of a large part of French Oceania by H. René Papy, who spent several years in an administrative capacity in Tahiti. This work, entitled, *La végétation des Iles de la Société et de Makatea (Océanie française)*, is published by the Laboratoire Forestier de Toulouse, Faculté des Sciences, Université de Toulouse, Allée Saint Michel, Toulouse, France. It is in two parts, the first of which is ready for distribution. This first part includes detailed chapters summarizing all available information

on the physical geography and geology, climatology, and soils, as well as a topographic map of the islands. It is abundantly illustrated by small maps, diagrams, and photographs. In this first part, however, there is little on vegetation, except for the photographs. The second part, in manuscript, is a detailed study of the vegetation, itself. The publication of the latter will depend on the proceeds from sales of the first part. It is hoped that this will not be long delayed. — F. R. F.

Coe, Wesley R. *Bathypelagic Nemertean of the Pacific Ocean*. Scripps Institution of Oceanography of the University of California, Bulletin. Vol. 6, No. 7, pp. 225-286, 2 pls., 32 figs. University of California Press, Berkeley and Los Angeles. \$0.75.